U.S. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
Office of Inspector General

August 12, 2024

Peter McGoron
email: peter@mcgoron.com

Re: FOIA Request No. F-24-59

Dear Mr. McGoron:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated April 14, 2024, which was referred by the National Science Foundation (NSF) FOIA Office to the Office of Inspector General (OIG), FOIA Office on April 22, 2024. You requested the following:

> material related to NSF investigations of fraud into Liyanagamage Ranganath Prabashwara Dias, also known as Ranga Dias[, including but not limited to:]
>
> 1) related communications with [that named individual, six other named individuals], the University of Rochester, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas[;] and
>
> 2) related communications about the formation of investigate committees[;]
>
> 3) and related reports by investigative committees into the conduct of Ranga Dias.

The NSF OIG is unable to confirm or deny the existence of investigative records about the individual named in your request, i.e., Liyanagamage Ranganath Prabashwara Dias, also known as Ranga Dias. Without that person's written consent, official acknowledgement of an OIG investigation, or an overriding public interest in disclosure that outweighs the inherent, significant privacy interests, even confirming or denying the existence of such records could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. See FOIA Exemption 7(C), 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C).

If you seek further assistance or wish to discuss any aspect of your request, please contact me, the OIG's FOIA Public Liaison, at foiaoig@nsf.gov. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at (202) 741-5770 or toll free at 1 (877) 684-6448.

If you are not satisfied with the NSF OIG's determination in response to your request, you may administratively appeal by writing to: Office of General Counsel, National Science Foundation,

2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22134; email foia@nsf.gov. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of this response letter. See 45 C.F.R. § 612.9(a).

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kendrick

Jennifer Kendrick
Assistant Counsel to the Inspector General
& OIG FOIA Public Liaison